

his country throughout the years, whether as a consultant or as the head of the Intensive Care Unit on base, led to him being awarded a total of 18 medals of commendation. Following his retirement, Colonel Sekhon continued serving the nation as he ran for the United States Congress, aspiring for political office. As a reminder of the multicultural foundation of our great country, Dr. Sekhon's story rings true to the basic principles of this nation: regardless of race or religion, any citizen may dedicate his or her life to safeguarding the liberties of our shared home.—Jaywin Singh Malhi

RECOGNITION FOR THE INTERCULTURAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DESERTS AND OCEANS

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of the Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans, also known as CEDO—El Centro de Estudios de Desiertos y Océanos.

On May 1 2010, CEDO celebrates 30 years of exploring and helping to protect the creatures, habitats and cultures of the Sonoran Desert and the Sea of Cortez. Its educational and research facility is located on the Sea of Cortez in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, México, where students and visitors alike are exposed to its essential work to preserve this fragile ecosystem.

CEDO was envisioned in 1975 when Peggy Turk Boyer, CEDO's executive director, first visited Puerto Peñasco with professors John Hendrickson and Don Thomson of the University of Arizona's Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department, as part of the University of Arizona's marine biology program.

CEDO opened its doors in 1980. Since then, thousands of people have participated in CEDO's research, education and conservation programs. CEDO's biological field station annually provides hands-on marine studies to hundreds of university students and researchers. CEDO also has expanded its outreach by offering school field trips, eco adventures, summer camps for young marine biologists and community education programs.

Gus, a 13 year old who spent time at CEDO, spoke for many others who have enjoyed the incredible opportunities that are available there. Gus wrote "in one small trip, I experienced a colossal adventure. It's not every day that you get to do something as magical as I was able to do, but luckily, CEDO is dedicated to bringing people closer to nature and all of its creatures. I have gained a new determination to protect the beauty of Puerto Peñasco and its unique environment. I believe that ordinary people, such as you and me, are the key to conserving the Sea of Cortez's irreplaceable natural wonder. Together, we can save the Sea. Thank you CEDO for your wonderful contributions to conservation."

The CEDO vision is that all residents and visitors to the Northern Gulf understand, appreciate and participate in sustainable activities and actions that support a healthy, thriving and productive ecosystem. CEDO seeks to learn about the region through research, share

the fruits of that research through educational activities and then use this knowledge to bring people together to help protect this unique and irreplaceable ecosystem.

Today, CEDO is working with researchers and fishermen in the Sea of Cortez to protect the Vaquita porpoise—the world's smallest and most endangered marine mammal species. Only about 200 Vaquitas remain—down two-thirds from a decade ago. CEDO is helping design a new type of net that will protect the Vaquitas and works with fishermen so they understand how they can ply their trade without harming the few remaining Vaquitas.

The research and educational efforts of the Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans have substantially improved the biological health and the sustainability of the Sea of Cortez. CEDO also understands the importance of collaboration with other entities. More than forty funding and program partners are part of the diverse CEDO network.

CEDO is doing critical conservation work for all of us and we look forward to everything that it will accomplish in the next 30 years. I commend the dedicated staff, board members and volunteers whose dedication sustains this essential environmental organization.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, on Monday, April 26, 2010, I was absent for three votes for medical reasons. I rise today to enter into the RECORD how I would have voted had I been able to vote.

House rollcall vote 221. I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 222. I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 223. I would have voted "yes."

HONORING JACOB'S LIGHT FOUNDATION, INC. FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Jacob's Light Foundation.

Jacob's Light Foundation has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. The continuous selfless efforts of those involved with Jacob's Light Foundation are admirable.

I am proud to honor Jacob's Light Foundation, Inc. for their extraordinary work in the community.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JACOB BRODMAN ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. LATTI. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Jacob Brodman of Tiffin, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Jacob's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet Class of 2014. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Jacob brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Calvert High School in Tiffin, Ohio, Jacob attained an impressive grade point average. Jacob was a member of the School's Spanish Club and Quiz Bowl team, and he earned academic letters throughout his high school career.

Outside the classroom, Jacob was a member of the football, wrestling, and track teams. Jacob utilized his leadership skills by participating in Calvert High School's National Honor Society and Student Council. I am confident that Jacob will carry the lessons of his student leadership to West Point.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jacob Brodman on his acceptance of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Jacob will excel during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING LONG ISLAND COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Long Island Coalition for the Homeless.

Coalition for the Homeless has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. The continuous selfless efforts of those involved with the Coalition are admirable.

I am proud to honor the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless for their extraordinary work in the community.